



LOUISIANA SENATE

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Contact: Sen. Johns
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STATE SEN. JOHNS HONORED WITH GOVERNMENTAL FRIEND OF TOURISM AWARD

District 27 State Senator Ronnie Johns (R-Lake Charles) is the latest recipient of the Governmental Friend of Tourism Award. The Louisiana Travel Promotion Association (LTPA) honored Sen. Johns for his tireless work to preserve the tourism dollar for promotions and programming efforts which enhance the economic fabric of Southwest Louisiana.



Sen. Johns is presented with Governmental Friend of Tourism Award by Kyle Edmiston, Assistant Secretary of Tourism.

As LTPA Co-Executive Director Jill Kidder noted, "Senator Johns has made himself available to his local community, regardless of the day and hour. He understands the significant economic impact of tourism and champions efforts to increase the number of visitors to Southwest Louisiana. It is our privilege to honor his work to help the tourism industry showcase our great culture to the rest of the world."

The senator has led efforts to secure capital outlay funding for important tourism and community development projects including the National Hurricane

Museum & Science Center, the new McNeese Field House and Riverside Park. He was also the driving force behind the Cove Lane interchange project which helps facilitate the movement of over 4.5 million guests to and from L'Auberge and other area casinos.

LTPA honored Sen. Johns at its recent annual meeting in Lake Charles. The trade association focuses on leading and strengthening Louisiana's vibrant tourism industry through promotion, education and advocacy on behalf of its members. Tourism generated \$11.2 billion for Louisiana in 2014 and employs 223,000 people throughout the state.

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